DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST

Saint Rose of Lima is participating in One Church, Many Disciples, along with every church in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. This first ever major campaign will build a Shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, support faith formation ministries and strengthen local parishes, including St. Rose of Lima. We join with faithful from across the archdiocese who are also helping to ensure our local church is strong and vibrant for generations to come.

As an archdiocese, we form a faith community of 200,000 Catholics in central and western Oklahoma; we truly are One Church, Many Disciples! With the Beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother, each of us has the opportunity to share in his legacy. What an occasion to live Jesus’ call to missionary discipleship.

Please take a moment to review the impact One Church, Many Disciples will have on St. Rose of Lima. This campaign has my full support and, as your pastor, I hope you will embrace this opportunity here at St. Rose of Lima.

Rev. Francis T. Nguyen

OUR PARISH ROOTS

Watonga, the seat of Blaine County, was for many years a place where the pastor of Geary, 18 miles to the southeast, would offer Mass on an occasional basis. In 1935, a mission was built there. It was a small but attractive structure, faced with stucco and with a tile roof, with stained glass windows that had been imported from Germany before World War I.

It was constructed within 30 days at a cost of $3,000, which was raised by parishioners in the middle of the Depression, except for a $1,000 gift from Catholic Extension. Bishop Kelley dedicated it to the first saint of the Western Hemisphere, St. Rose of Lima (Peru) on March 24, 1935. It was one of the few churches that Bishop Kelley was able to dedicate in that period of economic downsizing. To the north of Watonga are the former parishes of Hitchcock and Loyal. Both date from the beginning of the 20th century, but they were closed in 1997 because their congregations had dwindled in size. Today Saint Rose of Lima serves as a mission of Kingfisher.
PARISH LIFE TODAY

Today, St. Rose of Lima is very active, with multiple clubs and ministry groups that benefit the faith community in Watonga. With an active Altar Society, Knights of Columbus, and youth group, St. Rose of Lima provides a well-rounded array of ministries for the diverse faith community in Watonga. St. Rose of Lima also hosts a variety of community events, such as blood drives and fish fries.

OUR CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

Saint Rose of Lima welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s campaign, One Church, Many Disciples. This campaign will enable the building of a shrine for Blessed Stanley Rother, and will fund shared ministerial needs. Through participating in this campaign, St. Rose of Lima will raise significant funds toward the needs of our beloved community. We are seeking five-year pledges to achieve the parish campaign goal of $35,000. Saint Rose will receive 20% of all funds we raise up to the goal, totaling $7,000. Plus, 50% of every dollar raised above the goal will be returned to St. Rose of Lima.

OUR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

Through the One Church, Many Disciples campaign, we will not only play a significant role in this historic moment in the Church’s history, but we will also be able to support exciting new projects at St. Rose of Lima.

Saint Rose of Lima’s share of the funds raised in this campaign effort will go toward sanctuary renovations. The church is the most important communal gathering place for our faith community, and the renovations will continue to update and improve our church.

Sanctuary Renovations